



COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
PRESCHOOL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
POLICY

NO. 01 ISSUE 1
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EFFECTIVE: 07-02-10
Updated

SUBJECT:
USE OF COLD COMPRESS POLICY AND PROCEDURE

APPROVED: 07-02-10

BY: Ron Griffin, Director

POLICY

Effective immediately we are no longer using Ever Ready Cold Compresses. I have given each site enough cold compresses to start the new school year. All refills will be ordered through the butler building.

REFERENCE

1304.22 (a)

PROCEDURE

- ❖ The Butler Building will begin stocking disposable “instant” cold compresses.
- ❖ The Site Supervisor should use the Health Supplies Requisition form to order cold compresses. Site Supervisor should be responsible for storing and distributing them for **appropriate injuries only**.
- ❖ A sign out log (noting date of injury, name of child, and name of teacher giving first aid) will be kept to track usage of cold compresses, the log will be faxed with the Supplies Requisition when more compresses are needed.
- ❖ Site Supervisor will file a Child Incident Report for each injury, which requires a cold compress as per already existing PSD policy. Site Supervisor or Teacher will also call parent and inform them of the incident.
- ❖ Cold compresses **should not** be used to stop bleeding. Gauze dressings should be used to apply pressure to bleeding wounds, using universal blood and body fluid precautions.
- ❖ Cold Compresses **should** be used in the event of an injury that is likely to result in swelling or bruising. Rapid application of cold can reduce bruising and swelling in this instance.
- ❖ Children with an injury, which requires intervention with a cold compress, need to be closely supervised by site staff while the cold compress is being applied.

Directions for use are printed on each compress. Compresses are easy to use. You may use a paper towel to wrap the compress if the child feels it is too cold. If the child complains that the compress makes the injury feel worse, discontinue using it immediately.